

**FORM B - BUILDING**

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

C

FORM NO.

214



Town Acton

Address 15 Wright Terrace

Historic Name Lowell H. Cram (1922)

Use: Present single family residential

Original single family residential

**DESCRIPTION**

Date 1922

Source Priscilla Mead

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Builder: John S. Hoar

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboards/shingles

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

none

Condition Excellent

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage less than one acre

Setting Near the top of a hill, off

Massachusetts Avenue, facing east toward

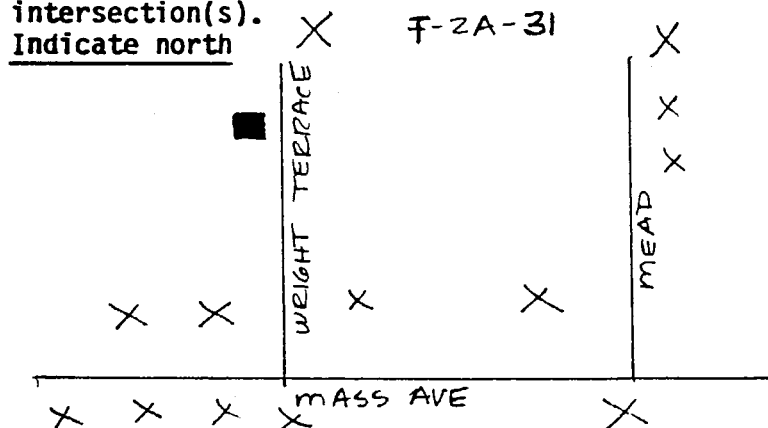
West Acton village.

Recorded by Schuler and Johnson

Organization Acton Historical Commission

Date March 1990

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north



N  
↑

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

USGS QUADRANGLE \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:  ACTON	Form No: C-214
Property Name: 15 Wright Terrace	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

15 WRIGHT TERRACE / ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The 1 1/2 story gambrel-roof, house at 15 Wright Terrace is sheathed in clapboards and shingles and rests on a rubblestone foundation. The house is a well preserved example of the Dutch Colonial style of Colonial Revival design. It is one of a handful of this type in West Acton. Windows throughout the house are 6/1 sash in wide enframements.

Sited near the top of a large hill, overlooking West Acton village, the house faces east. The main facade has a central entrance marked by a pedimented porch supported by round columns on fieldstone bases. The door is flanked by paired windows. There is a shed-roof dormer above punctuated by two standard windows, with one pair of small windows in the center. The north and south gambrel ends have semi-circular muti-paned windows in the peak, three windows on the second story, and a single standard window and three grouped windows near the back of the first level. There is an enclosed one story porch and exterior rubblestone chimney on the south end.

The carpenter/builder was John S. Hoar (1864-1954), a versatile carpenter/builder who also designed the Bungalow at 18 Wright Terrace (see form), and the majority of Queen Anne style houses on Windsor Avenue (see 49 Windsor).

15 WRIGHT TERRACE / HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

This house was built in 1922 for Lowell Harrison Cram and his wife Lois Moore Cram. In 1915, Lowell Cram went into partnership with his father-in-law Byron Moore to run Moore and Cram Webbing. The firm was begun by Byron Moore and another partner in 1908. The business was located in South Acton until 1917 when it moved to Concord. Mr. Cram lived at this address until his death in 1989.

Wright Terrace was laid out during the late 19th century on land that once belonged to George Cleveland Wright, a successful businessman who erected an elaborate Italianate house at 615 Massachusetts Avenue in 1861 (see form). This area west of the village, along Massachusetts Avenue, was very sparsely settled until the latter half of the 1800s when prosperous Acton residents began to build large houses here. This residence dates from the period of growth (1845-1930) that began in West Acton with the 1845 arrival of the railroad. Residential development started with small cottages near the center of the village then expanded west and south with more substantial and elaborate dwellings. This development paralleled the growth in local agriculture and industry supported by the railroad.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom